Social Services Block Grant



Purpose

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funded programs assist individuals or families to become less dependent on others for financial support or personal care; protect vulnerable children and/or adults; avoid unnecessary or premature institutionalization; and assist in gaining appropriate placement if institutionalization is necessary.

Who Is Helped

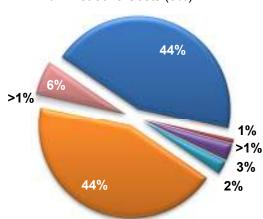
lowa's intended use plan* for the state's SSBG allocation advances the following SSBG goals on behalf of lowans:

- Achieving or maintaining economic selfsupport to prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency.
- Achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency.
- Preventing or remedying neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interests, or preserving, rehabilitating or reuniting families.
- Preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing communitybased care, home-based care, or other forms of less intensive care.
- Securing referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate or providing services to individuals in institutions.

*The 2015 SSBG Pre-Expenditure Report (intended use plan) is available on the DHS website under Reports.

Projected Use of SSBG Funds, by Program

- Case Management (44%)
- Protective Services-Adult (1%)
- Foster Care Adults (> 1%)
- Foster Care Children (3%)
- Home Based Services (2%)
- Special Services Disabled (44%)
- Other Volunteers (> 1%)
- Administrative Costs (6%)



- ✓ Prior to the mandatory sequestration in March 2013, as outlined in the Budget Control Act of 2011, the federal SSBG allocation remained consistent at approximately \$16.6 million for the from 2008-2013.
- ✓ Sequestration and reallocations based on the most recent census reduced lowa's allocation from \$16.6 million to \$15.8 million for FFY 2014 and to \$15.3 million for FFY 2015.
- ✓ This federal block grant continues to be threatened by Congressional actions:
 - Potential future reductions for non-exempt mandatory programs, including SSBG.
 - Total elimination of the block grant under a proposed "Expanding Opportunity in America" discussion by House Budget Chairman, Paul Ryan.

Goals & Strategies

Goal: Promote Iowan's Behavioral Health Status Strategies:

- Assure children with mental health conditions can be effectively served in lowa and have effective community based options.
- Provide access to mental health services.

SFY 14 key performance

 Under Iowa's Money Follows the Person program, 45 percent of consumers transitioned from institutional to community placements within 6 months of enrollment. Goal: promote Choice for Persons with Disabilities Strategy:

• Promote access to community based options for persons with disabilities.

Goal: Improve safety, permanency, and well-being for lowa's children

Strategies:

- Provide access to child welfare services.
- Promote best practice in service delivery.
- Since 2008, 317 consumers have transitioned out of ICF/ID placements to qualified living arrangements in the community, including 78 transitions in SFY14. Six of these transitions are from out of state placements
- 99.4 percent of abuse assessment reports meet timeliness requirements
- 95 percent of children alleged to be victims of abuse are seen within required 1 hour and 24 hour timeframes
- 91 percent of children are safe from reabuse.
- lowa achieved a 154.5 rating in FFY13
 for assuring children whose parental
 rights have been terminated are
 adopted within 2 years. This exceeds
 the national minumum standard of
 106.4 and lowa remains #1 ranking
 nationally for the second year.
- ✓ HHS' Administration for Children & Families (ACF) has implemented new performance measure strategies to improve States' efficiency in planning for the use of SSBG funding.
 - States will receive an overall performance score reflecting the percentage of all SSBG allocated dollars that were spent as the state projected. The target is 85 percent.
 - lowa's performance on this measure has exceeded 99 percent for the past five years based on total SSBG expenditures.
 - In addition, ACF expects the percentage of SSBG funding used for administrative costs to be 10 percent or less; this will be a formalized in a performance measure in the future. Iowa's intended use plans for 2013-2015 have reported administrative cost use of 5.94 percent.

\$15

\$10

\$5

\$0

SFY16 & SFY17 Budget Drivers

In 2012, lowa planned for an annual federal fiscal year SSBG award of over \$16.6 million. In addition, approximately \$13.9 million of TANF funds were transferred into SSBG to make nearly \$30.6 million available to achieve lowa's annual intended use plan strategies.

Since 2013, Iowa's SSBG allocation has gradually decreased. In part, this was due to the Budget Control Act of 2011, and sequestrations; an additional decrease in the overall award is due to state reallocations based on the most recent U.S. Cenusus.

lowa allocates the grant award annually according to the percentages depicted on the chart on the preceeding page.

The projected annual federal fiscal year SSBG award in SFY16 is \$15.3 million The planned transfer of approximately \$12.9 million TANF funds make nearly \$28.3 million available.

\$35 \$30 \$25 \$20

Total SSBG Expenditures*



The key budget driver impacting the department's recommendation is MHDS Redesign:

- On July 1, 2013, residency replaced durational legal settlement in determining responsibility for non-Medicaid funded services. Nearly all persons who were enrolled in the State Payment Program (SPP) during SFY13 have a county of residence that is responsible for funding their services beginning in SFY14. Those individuals where a county of residence cannot be determined may qualify for services funded by the state. In SFY14, there were 18 individuals whose non-Medicaid funded services were paid for by the state.
- In SFY15, \$11,774,275 of SSBG will be distributed to MHDS regions based on the amount
 the counties in their region received in SFY14; and \$600,000 of SSBG funding is retained by
 the department to pay for non-Medicaid funded services for those individuals where a county
 of residence determination cannot be made.
- For SFY15, \$11,774,285 of SSBG is allocated for growth in county services.
- ✓ In SFY16, the vast majority of the SSBG funding will be used to fund regional services not covered by Medicaid.
- ✓ Up to 10 percent of TANF funds can be transferred to SSBG, however the percentage of TANF funds is decreasing due to other competing service needs.